

REMARKS

Claims 23 and 24 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 26-61 are presented. Claims 1-22 and 25-61 are now pending. No new matter is added.

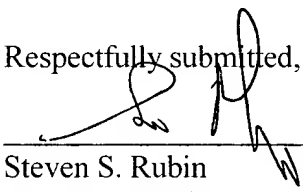
Claims 24 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,748,098. To facilitate prosecution of this application, claims 23 and 24 are cancelled and will be filed in a continuation application.

Claims 1-22 and 25 are allowed. New dependent claims 26-51 depend from allowed independent claims 14, 15 and 25 respectively and substantially correspond to allowed dependent claims 2-13 respectively. New claim 52 substantially corresponds to allowed claim 25. New dependent claims 53-61 substantially correspond to allowed dependent claims 4-13.

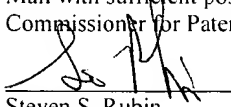
Allowance of the application with each of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Date: 3/22/04

Respectfully submitted,


Steven S. Rubin
Reg. No. 43,063
BROWN RAYSMAN MILLSTEIN
FELDER & STEINER LLP
900 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022
Tel: (212) 895-2000 Fax: (212) 895-2900

I hereby certify that this paper and any accompanying papers referenced herein are being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail with sufficient postage addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Steven S. Rubin

3/22/04
Date